

FEBRUARY MESSAGE FROM THE COMMANDER

Once again, we will continue to use the Centennial Tower for our meetings until it becomes necessary to change.

I have been asked to help out wing with a number of special programs. First, to represent Colorado Wing at a Buckley AFB activity for Environmental Protection. Second, to act as the reimbursement officer for Colorado Wing Finance (which I have been doing for a long time. Third, is to act as reimbursement officer for ROTC and Cadet Orientation Flights. Basically I will be establishing a plan for these submissions and creating continuity books to help my replacement.

Membership

Something must be working correctly. We continue to have one or two visitors at every meeting. And, **1Lt Bill Agster** is handing out applications and explaining the goals of our squadron. The word is getting out which indicated that Black Sheep Senior Squadron is not the best kept secret in CAP. We just had a member transfer from California, **Chaplain 1Lt Kevin Shaw**. He and MLO **Major Sid Altum** will comprise our Chaplain Activity.

OPS/ES

Thanks to the outstanding OPS/ES management, we were able to borrow two aircraft to fill our requirement for the Mission Observer Flight Training. Luckily 71N came back from getting it's 100 hour inspection and the installation of the Satellite Radio.

We also want to thank **Major David Hurtado** for his help as Incident Commander on this mission. His expertise in mission operation and ability to evaluate the member activities ensured that we receive great feedback on how we could do better.

We did notice a little problem during the Mission Observer Training mission. We had some members show up with improper uniforms and some with no CAPF 101.

Metal insignia is not authorized on either the AF or CAP Flight suits. Check in CAPM 39-1.

All members should check out their data in the M.I.M.S system. If you don't know how, get in touch with me, **1Lt Rick Simonds**, or **2Lt Brandon Nadrash**. You must also download a current CAPF 101. The new CAPF 101 will indicate what you are qualified for and is required when you report for a mission. If it doesn't have a photo on it, send me a digital picture, preferably in uniform and I will get it into the database. You can check this out at e-Service on the left side under personal CAPF 101.

TRAINING

Captain Jim Smith and **1Lt Rick Simonds** once again pulled off an outstanding training activity. 10 students completed the classroom training. Due to the flights scrubbed on Sat afternoon due to wind, none of them completed the in-flight portion. That should be completed next weekend (assuming the weather is good).

I mentioned last month that many thought we may have been a little aggressive during the planning, but it appears to have worked. Our training program has been evaluated by wing and there are plans to do this training at the wing level. This will not change our training plans. We still have another series of Mission Scanner, Observer, and Pilot training scheduled for later in the year.

A question came up about why we are charging for the training when it is a funded mission. The staff decided that we would charge each member for the training and put the funds away in a training account for use when we cannot get wing funding. That way, it will be fair to all members throughout the year. I have asked the squadron finance officer to establish a separate income/expense ledger column to keep track of the training funds.

We have three training slots available for the Mission Pilot Training, scheduled for 12-13 March, and are offering them to other wing members. Our members will always have first priority.

In addition, we plan on having continuous Level 1, and ECI 13 training conducted by **Colonel Jim Cooksey**. Let him know if you are interested so he and **2Lt Craig "Pat" Privette**, our testing Officer, can get your ECI 13 package on order. Remember that ECI 13 is a major roadblock in promotion to Captain. It is good to get it out of the way as soon as you can. But, you are the ones that will make it happen. You have to request the training to get the ball rolling

Professional Development

I am still handling the PDO function until we get a new professional development officer. I have been forwarding changes in the Specialty Training Tracks direct to national and they are getting updated fairly quickly.

Level 2 Training requires a Technician rating in the select specialty track to be eligible for promotion to 1Lt. The following steps are required by the member.

1. Download the applicable specialty track pamphlet from CAPNHQ e-Services.
2. Review the Functions and Responsibilities of the applicable rating.
3. Send the PDO (me for now) a Word Document, outlining why you think you meet each of the criteria. I will evaluate the document and if I approve the upgrade, I will forward the upgrade to National. The approved document will be returned to you and a copy will be filed in your squadron personnel file.

AEROSPACE EDUCATION

1Lt Juan Carlos Madeni is hoping to increase the number of our members who have completed the Aerospace Education Program for Senior Members (AEPSM), the Yeager Award. It is a pretty simple activity since they made the test available on the national website. Borrow the book from **1Lt Juan Carlos** and take the test.

PROMOTIONS

This months promotions: **2Lt James Jenkins** to Lt Col (Officer of the Armed Forces), **2Lt Pete Krueger** to Captain (ATP). Let me know if you think you are eligible for promotion and I will check it out.

Norman G. Khobos
Norman G. Khobs, Colonel, CAP
Commander
Black Sheep Senior Squadron